



# Lake Michigan Water Safety Webinar

National Weather Service Grand Rapids MI



<b>Evolution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wind and Waves will build tonight as southwest winds increase</li><li>• Waves will reach their peak during the midday and into the afternoon hours on Friday</li></ul>
<b>Time Period of Concern</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The entire swimming day on Friday 7/19/13</li></ul>
<b>Threat Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All beaches from St. Joseph to Manistee</li></ul>
<b>Confidence Level</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High</li><li>• A strong cold front will produce higher than normal winds for the mid summer</li></ul>

Thursday July 18<sup>th</sup> 200PM



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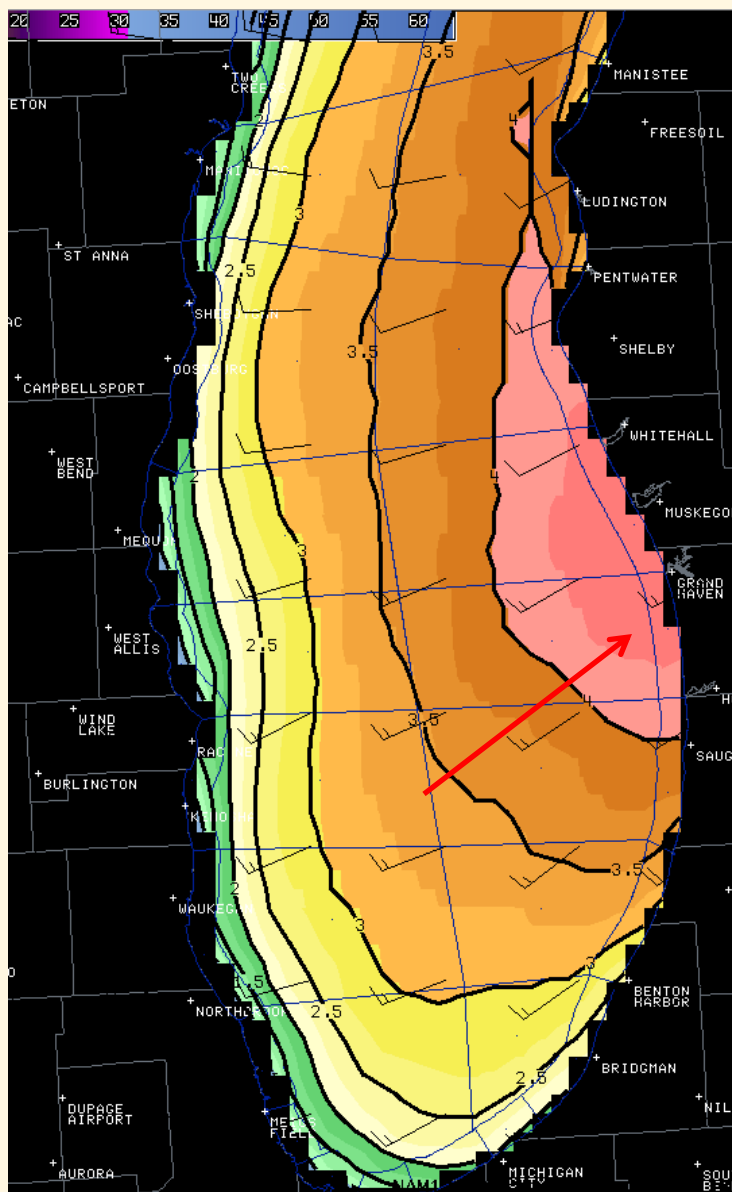
<b>Wind</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Southwest winds will increase to 15 to 25 mph tonight. Southwest winds of 15 to 30 mph with some higher gusts are possible on Friday before subsiding from north to south in the evening and overnight.</li></ul>
<b>Waves</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Waves will begin the day at 3 to 6 feet and remain in that range through most of if not all the day.</li></ul>
<b>High Impact Beaches</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pere Marquette Park in Muskegon...Grand Haven State Park and South Beach at South Haven...all of which are located on the south side of south piers (structural currents).</li></ul>
<b>Other Concerns</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In wind regimes roughly parallel to the coast (northerly or southerly), strong long shore currents form. Strong south long shore currents can be expected sweeping up the beach from south to north Friday.</li></ul>

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## Forecast Wave Heights

Image Valid:

400pm Friday

### Waves Legend

Less and 1 foot Blue

1-2 feet Green

2-3 feet Yellow

3-4 feet Orange

4-5 feet Red

5-6 feet Purple

6-7 feet Black

> 7 feet White

Red arrow indicates direction the wind is coming from



# Summary

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- Waves of 3 to 6 feet, especially from South Haven north up the shore
- Hazardous swimming conditions are expected
- The hot temperatures combined with water temperatures in the 70s will attract a high number of people to swim in Lake Michigan. It is therefore critical in this situation that beach goers are made aware of the **HIGH** swim hazard risk for Friday.
- Swim Hazard Risk: **HIGH**
- Strong Long Shore currents can also be expected sweeping north up the beach
- Structural currents can be expected on the south side of south piers



# Click the Links Below for More Information

National Weather Service Grand Rapids MI



**NWS Grand Rapids Website**

<http://www.weather.gov/grr>

**Recreational Beach Forecast**

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/grr/marine/surf/>

**GLERL Wave Model**

<http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/res/glcfs/>

**Buoy / Lakeshore Obs**

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/maps/>

**Beach Observations**

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/grr/products/>  
select OMRGRR